

United Nations

Centre against *Apartheid*

Notes and Documents

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HARARE COMMUNIQUE

ISSUED AT THE END OF THE SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION
OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF
THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, HELD AT HARARE
ON 7 FEBRUARY 1991

Harare Communiqué

1. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of African States on Southern Africa met at Harare on 7 February 1991 under the chairmanship of H.E. Yoweri Museveni, Current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), to review the political developments in southern Africa, in particular, the implementation of the Harare Declaration and the United Nations consensus Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, which spelled out the specific terms and conditions for an internationally acceptable solution to the problem of apartheid in South Africa.

2. Present at the meeting were the following heads of State:

Angola:	H.E. Jose Eduardo dos Santos
Botswana:	H.E. Quett Masire
Mozambique:	H.E. Joachim Chissano
Namibia:	H.E. Sam Nujoma
Nigeria:	H.E. Ibrahim Babangida
Uganda:	H.E. Yoweri Museveni, Current Chairman of OAU
United Republic of Tanzania:	H.E. Ali Hassan Mwinyi
Zambia:	H.E. Kenneth Kaunda
Zimbabwe:	H.E. Robert Mugabe

The following other members of the Ad Hoc Committee were also present:

Algeria:	H.E. Ahmed Ghazali, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Congo:	H.E. Antoine Ndinga Oba, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
Egypt:	H.E. Dr. Boutros Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs
Ethiopia:	Fesseha Desta, Vice-President of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

The following national liberation movements were represented:

African National Congress of South Africa (ANC): Mr. Nelson Mandela,
Deputy President
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC): Mr. Clarence Makwetu, President

3. Having listened to the presentations by the national liberation movements in South Africa and taking into account the policy pronouncements made by President F.W. de Klerk on 1 February 1991, the Ad Hoc Committee concluded that the steps taken so far by the regime fell short of the demands and expectations of the people of South Africa and the international community, as expressed in both the Harare Declaration and the United Nations consensus Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa.

4. Since 2 February 1990, as a result of the internal and international pressure against it, the Pretoria regime has taken some measure towards meeting the demands contained in these declarations. However, in spite of the publicly expressed intentions by the de Klerk regime, it has failed to release all political prisoners, including detainees and those sentenced to death. It has also failed to allow the unconditional return of political exiles. Moreover, repressive legislation remains intact on the South African statute books, as a result of which normal political activity cannot take place. Accordingly, the present state of affairs gives no guarantee that the political process under way in South Africa is irreversible.

5. Against the backdrop of the recent pronouncements by President de Klerk, the Ad Hoc Committee discussed at length the issue of sanctions. In this respect, it recalled that, at the request of the people of South Africa and their liberation movements, the international community had, for decades, been seized of the situation in South Africa and had committed itself to the eradication of apartheid.

6. While taking note of the fact that some positive changes had taken place in South Africa, the Ad Hoc Committee resolved that there was a continuing need to maintain sanctions and all forms of pressure against the South African regime, until agreement was reached on "transitional arrangements and modalities on the process of the drawing up and adoption of a new constitution, and of the transition to a democratic order, including the holding of elections". In this regard, the Committee drew the attention of the international community to the objectives stipulated in the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa adopted by consensus by the United Nations General Assembly on 14 December 1989.

7. Considering the need to respect resolutions adopted by the international community, the Ad Hoc Committee urged all States to desist from actions likely to undermine their effective implementations.

8. With reference to the situation inside South Africa, the Ad Hoc Committee expressed grave concern at the escalation of violence fueled by some elements of the security establishment and deplored the tragic loss of thousands of lives and the destruction of property.

9. Furthermore, the Ad Hoc Committee was appalled by the reluctance on the part of the de Klerk regime to put an end to the violence and called upon the regime to bring the carnage to an end.

10. In the light of the attempts by the regime to undermine the liberation struggle, the Ad Hoc Committee welcomed the meetings held between ANC and Inkatha, ANC and PAC, as well as contacts between PAC and Inkatha, and expressed the hope that those contacts would bring an end to the violence. In that regard the Ad Hoc Committee urged the parties involved to adhere strictly to agreements reached.

11. Furthermore, the Ad Hoc Committee encouraged the holding of such meetings and urged the oppressed people of South Africa to forge wider unity among themselves. To that end, the Ad Hoc Committee fully supported the proposed Patriotic Front Conference as a major development that would facilitate the emergence of a consolidated and coordinated front prior to negotiations with the South African regime.

12. The Ad Hoc Committee reaffirmed its total commitment to the liberation struggle in South Africa and, considering the burden placed on the liberation movements following their unbanning and the return of exiles, pledged to continue to render support to the victims of apartheid. It appealed to all States, organizations and institutions and to the Africa Fund of the movement of Non-Aligned countries to increase economic, humanitarian, educational and other assistance and support to the victims of apartheid.

13. Cognizant of the need to monitor closely the situation in South Africa, the Ad Hoc Committee decided to remain seized of the developments in South Africa.

14. The Ad Hoc Committee was briefed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and President Joachim A. Chissano of Mozambique on the situation prevailing in their respective countries.

15. The Ad Hoc Committee commended President dos Santos of Angola and President Chissano of Mozambique for the initiatives they had continued to take in their respective countries towards national reconciliation and lasting peace. In that regard, the Committee expressed the hope that the peace talks would yield positive results and urged all parties to refrain from acts likely to jeopardize the peace process.

16. The Ad Hoc Committee expressed its appreciation and gratitude to the President, the Government and the people of Zimbabwe for the warm reception and hospitality extended to them during their stay at Harare.

Courtesy of Centre against Apartheid